

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, further examination and reconsideration of the rejections in the Office Action of April 15, 2009 are respectfully requested.

By this amendment, claims 21 and 22 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Claims 23 and 36 are amended, and claim 37 is added. Thus, claims 23-37 are pending in the application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 23-35 in item 10 of the Office Action.

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 21 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki (U.S. 6,798,451); in item 8 on page 4 of the Office Action, claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki. The rejection of claims 21 and 22 is moot in view of their cancellation. The rejection of claim 36 believed inapplicable to the amended claim for the reasons below. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim 23 was indicated in the Action as being directed to allowable subject matter. Claim 23 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of base claim 21. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 23 is allowable over the prior art of record, as are claims 24-37 depending therefrom.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this amendment, the Examiner feels that there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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